

Another Year

I know not what awaiteth me
As dawns another year,
The path untrod I cannot see,
Yet knows my heart no fear.

The dark the path may be or light,
A smooth or rugged way,
I ever shall be led aright
While I for guidance pray.

I know not whether short or long
My pilgrimage may be,
I'll daily praise my God in song
For all his love to me.

And as the year shall onward roll
And day by day be mine,
I'll seek to lead some precious soul
To Christ, the way divine.

My God shall be my strength and stay
While sojourning below;
He will supply my need alway—
His Word assures me so.

With joy I greet the opening year,
It cannot bring me ill,
Since Christ, my Lord, is ever near,
My soul with peace to fill.

—Julia North Hall, in New York Observer.

Christ Every Day

THEODORE L. CUYLER

My fellow believer, you may walk your daily life journey thru all this coming year in the delightful companionship of your Savior if you keep a clear conscience and a praying heart and an obedient temper. Begin every morning with a cordial invitation to Him to grant you His presence. Think of Him all the while as close by you. The busy bustle of the counting room has not hindered the fellowship with Christ of many a godly minded merchant who carries his religion into his business and deals by the Golden Rule. I pity the minister into whose study the Master never enters. Many a farmer has communed with Jesus as he followed his plow, until the acres which he trod "had the smell of a field that the Lord had blessed." Hard-toiling, and often sorely tried sister, don't you suppose that your Master knows as well where you live as he knew the house of Mary and Martha at Bethany.

You may have Christ every day, if you wish. Just as surely as Christ met his disciples on that early morn by the strand of Galilee, will He come to us. Just as surely now as then will those who love Him most be the quickest to recognize Him and the first to hasten to Him. He who is the living Truth has never broken a promise, and He never uttered an idle mockery when He said: "Lo, I am with you always."

There is no journey of life but has its clouded days; and during this year of grace 1901 there will probably come to many of our readers, days in which the eyes will be so blinded with tears that it will not be easy to see their way or to spell out God's promises. Days which have bright sunrises, followed by sudden thunderclaps and bursts of unexpected sorrows, are the ones which test our graces most severely. Yet the laws of spiritual eyesight resembles the law of physical optics. When we come suddenly out of the daylight into a room even moderately dark-

ened, we can discern nothing; but the pupil of our eye gradually enlarges until unseen objects become visible. Even so the pupil of the eye of faith has the blessed faculty of enlarging in dark hours of affliction, so that we can discover a hand of love behind a cup of sorrow, and the face of Jesus beaming out of the gloom. We catch the sweet accents: "Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in Me. I will not leave you comfortless." It was in a room of intense bodily suffering that one of Christ's veterans said: "I have no bodily strength, yet I am strong. Jesus comes to me in the watches of the night, and draws aside the curtains and says: 'It is I, it is I; be not afraid.'"

'Oh, perfect peace! oh, perfect rest!
No care or vain alarms;
Beneath our very cross we find
The Everlasting Arms."

Our Young People

TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE CHURCH,
OUR OPPORTUNITY AND OUR
OBLIGATION

WM. D. FURRY

I am asked to bring you a message for the twentieth century. I am glad to do so, altho I appreciate the difficulty, not to say the solemnity and the responsibility of doing so. I hope that you may appreciate it likewise as you read so that this message may be what it is hoped it will be, a heart to heart talk concerning the spiritual significance of the auspicious times in which we live. We stand at the threshold of a new year, a new century, and if we interpret aright the movements and achievements of the past quarter century, a new era.

You are already familiar with the movements and achievements of the past century. It will do no good to enumerate them again. What now concerns us most is to rightly interpret them. Only as we do this can we find the real and adequate message for our own generation, and only as we find this will

we be able to serve our generation according to the will of God. And this the Christian student of current events can do. Science has proven that beneath the wonderful complexity of nature there is a unity no less wonderful. According to Humboldt the great law of the natural world is *unity in diversity*. But the student will find also that this is the great law of history. No one to-day doubts that. "Thru the ages one increasing purpose runs." The atheist perceives this underlying unity but is unable to account for it; the agnostic also perceives it but does not attempt to explain it; the Christian student however is alone able to account for this profound fact, by reconciling it with his belief in God as the one that not only creates but governs the universe with reference to a definite and pre-determined end. Only the believer can read history aright. To all such history is prophecy. God's purposes and times come not unheralded, tho oftentimes unnoticed. He always gives premonitory and preparatory signs of these. He does not, therefore rebuke, but encourages the reading of the signs of the times. The present if rightly interpreted predicts the future. Prophecy and converging providence are our two God given aids to read aright the present. The coming together of these two marks a birth hour in the history of the race. Thoughtful men everywhere appreciate that the two are again converging, the issue of which will be the twin giants, *opportunity* and *obligation*, and that in these two words is contained the message of the nineteenth to the twentieth century.

Certainly no one can say that this interpretation of modern events is either fanciful or far fetched. It is certainly true that before the church of today lies the opportunity of the ages. Doors of opportunity are open and opening on every hand. I am speaking now, not of the open doors in the literary, scientific, commercial, professional or inventive worlds, but only of those open and opening in the religious world. And I thus limit myself because I hold that the grandest sphere for the success of young men and women today is to be *soul savers*—the following of our Lord in obedience to his last and greatest command. "Go ye forth and preach the gospel to every creature." The greatest work in the world is not the purification of politics, business, art, or the press, but the salvation of men, even to the uttermost parts of the world. The last word of Jesus to his disciples was *go*, a little word, yet stupendous if analyzed. It is made up, says another, "of that single round 'O' that encircles the whole world, and of that crooked 'G' that binds the whole world fast to the throne of God. We are also to hear his voice, and go, go and not cease to go until the last man in the whole world shall have heard of Jesus' love. That command embraces us all alike." It covers every man and woman of us beneath the scepter of the Son of God. And this is the lesson we have not learned, the implicit obedience demand-